

THE CLAIMS

No amendments are made to the listing of claims in the present response.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish wherein the solvent comprises at least one water-insoluble ester of a polycarboxylic acid having more than 2 carboxylic acid groups with a monohydric alcohol having at least 4 carbon atoms.

2. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 1, wherein from 45% to 90% by weight of said solvent comprises an ester of a polycarboxylic acid with an alcohol having at least 4 carbon atoms.

3. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 2, wherein from 50% to 80% by weight of said solvent comprises an ester of a polycarboxylic acid with an alcohol having at least 4 carbon atoms.

4. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 2, wherein from 55% to 65% by weight of said solvent comprises an ester of a polycarboxylic acid with an alcohol having at least 4 carbon atoms.

5. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 1, wherein said alcohol has from 4 to 20 carbon atoms.

6. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 5, wherein said alcohol has from 6 to 10 carbon atoms.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 1, wherein said polycarboxylic acid has 3 or 4 carboxylic acid groups.

9. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 1, wherein said polycarboxylic acid is an aromatic polycarboxylic acid.

10. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 9, wherein said polycarboxylic acid is a benzenepolycarboxylic acid.

11. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 10, wherein said benzenepolycarboxylic acid is trimellitic acid.

12. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 11, wherein the ester is an ester of trimellitic acid with one or more straight chain saturated C₈-C₁₀ aliphatic alcohols.

13. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 11, wherein the ester is tridecyl trimellitate.

14. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 8, wherein the ester is an ester of citric acid or acetylcitric acid.

15. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 8, wherein said ester is the butyl ester.

16. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 1, wherein said solvent additionally comprises at least one triglyceride of C₈-C₂₀ aliphatic carboxylic acids.

17. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 16, wherein said triglyceride is a triglyceride of C₁₀-C₁₈ aliphatic carboxylic acids.

18. (Previously Presented) An offset printing ink or varnish according to claim 17, wherein said triglyceride is coconut oil.